



# COBLANDS

## BAMBOO FACT SHEET

All the Bamboo Plants listed below are available from Coblands. The majority are at the Cash & Carry sites.

### Growth rate and ultimate size

Like any other grass, the growth rate of bamboo is determined by the degree of moisture and feeding. The ultimate height and spread can therefore be difficult to predict. If plants are planted in humus rich soil that is well drained but yet moisture retentive, your bamboo should thrive for you. The plants listed below are available from Coblands Nurseries and the Cash & Carry's. Some varieties such as *Phyllostachys aurea*, *Phyllostachys nigra*, *Pseudosasa japonica* (*Bambusa Metake*) are available up to 3 metres in a 45 litre pot. Larger plants are available on request.

#### ***Bambusa glaucescens 'Alphonse Karr'***

#### ***(Bambusa multiplex 'Alphonse Karr')***

A handsome clump forming bamboo from China.

Young stem sheaths striped pink and green, and mature stems about 2cm in diameter, are pink at first then turn bright yellow to orange with green stripes of varying widths. Extremely attractive and very popular.

Can grow up to 8 metres. Hardy to -13°C.

#### ***Fargesia nitida (Sinarundinaria nitida)***

Originating from the Himalayas, thus being one of the hardiest of all bamboos. It prefers semi-shade, especially in hot, dry summers. The stem colour is dark green sometimes red-brown. It is clump forming and can grow up to 4 metres. Hardy to -30°C.  
(A good substitute for *Fargesia murielae*, which flowered two years ago)

#### ***Indocalamus tesselatus (Sasa tesselata)***

Originating from China this plant can grow in semi-shade to full sun. An excellent ground cover plant, growing to 1 metre in height. Its noticeable feature is its large leaves, possibly the largest leaves of all hardy cultivated bamboo. Hardy to -23°C.

#### ***Phyllostachys aurea***

Originating from China, this plant is regularly planted in the United Kingdom. The stems are green turning to a dull yellow in sun, basal internodes thickening with maturity. Ideal as a specimen, hedge or container plant. Grows to 3-4 metres and is hardy to -20°C.

#### ***Phyllostachys aurea 'Koi'***

A very good coloured form, which in combination with the interesting culms and upright growth, makes it a very useful garden plant. 'Koi' has yellow culms and a green stems. The plant benefits from a little shade to avoid the green sulcus losing its intensity. Hardy to -20°C.

#### ***Phyllostachys babusoides 'Castillonis'***

'Castillonis' is the most popular form with its outstanding yellow stems and green sulcus. It is a strong grower and more successful in slightly colder regions. Hardy to -15°C.

#### ***Phyllostachys flexuosa***

Originating from China, this green stem plant later turning yellow with black speckles getting larger with age. The upright stem has a zig-zag growth pattern, with a moderate spreading habit. Height 2- 2.5 metres. Hardy to -23°C.

### **Phyllostachys nigra Boryana**

Originating from China this bamboo has speckled brown stems that are erect in habit. Can grow up to 3 metres with moderate spread. Hardy to -23°C.

### **Phyllostachys nigra**

Originating from China it requires a warm and sunny site. The green stem gradually turns black with maturity. The stems are naturally arched, with small leaves. It tends to be slow spreading, growing to 2-3 metres. Hardy to -18°C.

### **Phyllostachys pubescens**

#### **(*Phyllostachys heterocyla f. pubescens*)**

Originating from China, it likes a warm site. The stem is green-grey, with soft white hair when young. It will only spread when planted in a warm position. Only grows to 3metres in the UK. Hardy to -23°C.

### **Pleioblastus chino 'Kimmei'**

#### **(*Hibanobambusa tranquillans* 'Kimmei')**

All Pleioblastus species produce long, powerful rhizomes in good sites and a single plant therefore can spread quickly. This plant has long, broad green leaves. Grows to 1.5 metres. Regarded to be hardy.

### **Pleioblastus variegatus**

This dwarf species has green and white striped leaves. It benefits from pruning to keep the height in proportion to its spread. A good ground cover plant for semi to full shade, ideal for lightening dark areas. Evergreen, but best to prune out old wood after the winter.

### **Pseudosasa japonica (Bambusa Metake)**

Originating from South Japan and Korea this bamboo can be planted in sun or shade. The stem is green in colour, with moderate spread. Ideal as a specimen, hedge or in a container. Height is 3.5 metres. A mature stand is very impressive. Hardy -23°C.

### **Pseudosas japonica 'Akebonosuji'**

This is a fine variegated plant with bright yellow variegation. This form should be divided frequently to maintain the variegation as older plants have more green leaves. Grows to about 1.5 - 2 metres and is hardy to -23°C.

### **Sasa palmata f. nebulosa**

In Japan, Sasa is planted to stabilize embankments because the rhizomes penetrate the soil well and bind it together. The plant needs much water and nourishment to sustain such strong growth. If the 30cm leaves become tatty, the grove can be occasionally cut back to ground level. Can grow up to 1.5 - 2 metres. Can be invasive if planted in ideal conditions. Hardy to -30°C.

### **Sasaella ramosa (Arundinaria vagans)**

Originating from Japan this excellent ground cover has 15cm long leaves that are green in colour. It is a quick spreading plant that requires room to spread. Grows to 60cm tall and very hardy -30°C.

### **Semiarundinaria fastuosa**

This plant comes from East Asia. It has a clump forming habit and has relatively large leaves. This species is the most wide spread and is known as the 'Stately Bamboo' because of its straight and strong stems. It is particularly suitable for hedges. Can grow up to 7 metres. Hardy to -23°C.

### **Shibataea kumasasa**

Originating from Japan, this low growing bamboo is 80cm in height. It requires a damp position with some shade in the garden. It is slow to spread, with rather unusual short, broad leaves. The leaves are attached at the node on very short stems, giving a rosette effect. Hardy to -23°C.

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